

## 2019 Intertown Softball Rules – 8U Division

1. Age requirement for 8U participation is player cannot turn 9 before 12/31/18 date heading into the Spring Rec Season. Exceptions can be made based in individual circumstances agreed upon by Intertown Board.
2. Games will be played on weeknights starting at 6:00 pm or Saturday's starting at 11:00 am.
3. 8U will use an 11 inch "softie" yellow softball for all games. Each team will provide 1 new game ball per game.
4. Each team must have a minimum of 7 players to play a game unless agreed upon by both teams prior to play. Maximum number of players in the field at once is 10. ***All outfielders must play on the outfield grass and cannot move into the infield until the ball is put into play.***
5. All teams are responsible for leaving dugout area clean when game is over.
6. Players arriving late should be added to the bottom of the batting order. Late arriving players can take the field immediately.
7. Games will last 5 innings; no new inning shall start after 1hour 20 minutes. A game called by an umpire or manager will be official if 2 ½ innings have been played if home team is winning or 3 innings if the visitors are winning.
8. Continuous batting order will be used.
9. 4 run limit per inning. Three defensive outs or 4 runs ends the inning.
10. Runners may not steal but may take a lead on the release of the ball by the pitcher. If the runner leaves early, a warning will be given. If a second offense occurs, the runner will be called out.
11. No passed balls.
12. Bunting is allowed.
13. No slashing (faking a bunt then hitting away).
14. No Infield Fly Rule.
15. Batting helmets with face cage and chin straps are mandatory.

16. Pitching:

- Players will throw up to 4 pitches, if ball has not been put into play, coach of hitting team will pitch up to 6 pitches (see rule below) but is not allowed to make any plays on the ball. Player remains in the pitching circle as a fielder. Pitching mound will be 30' distance. Temporary mounds can be used. 3 strikes is considered an out.

17. Each batter will be allowed 6 coach pitches to bat the ball into play. A foul ball, on the 6<sup>th</sup> pitch, will not count unless batter attempted to bunt the ball. Each batter that fails to bat the ball into play will be counted as an out after the 6<sup>th</sup> coach pitch regardless of how many "strikes" have been thrown.

18. Catcher needs to throw each pitch back to pitcher if caught.

19. No advances on overthrows.

20. Players may advance to second base only on balls hit to the outfield grass (*in the air*). Runners on base may advance 2 bases as well on those hits.

21. In an effort to avoid time issues with the catcher it is mandatory that a courtesy runner is used for the catcher after the 2nd out.

22. Face masks are encouraged for all infield positions.

23. Two coaches are allowed on the field while their team is on defense. Coaches must stay on the outfield grass and not interfere with game play. Batting team is allowed 1<sup>st</sup> base, 3<sup>rd</sup> base coach as well as a coach at home plate to help batter with mechanics. Batting team is also allowed a coach to pitch.

24. All coaches must have a CORI check done to enter dugouts or field of play.

25. Coaches will call balls and strikes, either the coach already positioned at the mound or already positioned behind home plate.